

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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Hungary

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Forced Labor Camps

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SOURCE

1. Q. Do you know of any factories in Hungary where forced labor was used?
 A. Forced labor was used to build the aluminum factory in Inota. Approximately 800 high ranking political prisoners were used in construction of this factory during 1951. The only Hungarian copper mine at Reesk had a camp for these high ranking officials. Prisoners who had other skills could do work within the factory after it was completed. These prisoners received certain privileges. They received about 60% of the wage received by a common laborer. They were allowed to smoke and if they worked well and had a good conduct rating they could be paroled after serving one-third of their time. Forty percent of their wage was deducted for food, the remainder had to be sent home. Most of the prisoners preferred work to sitting in a prison.
2. Q. How large was the camp at Reesk?
 A. It was approximately 1,000 meters square. A four or five-meter barbed wire fence enclosed the entire camp. If I remember correctly, there were at least six towers where guards were stationed day and night. In addition each tower had flood lights.
3. Q. Were there any other factories under construction where workers were constantly guarded?
 A. A factory was being built in Reesk. The workers there were heavily guarded because of their political views.
4. Q. If a factory is being constructed, is a camp built near the site and the prisoners brought in for that particular project?
 A. Yes. When the project is completed the prisoners are either returned to prison or transferred to another project. A great problem arises because none of the prisoners can be used for indoor work even though many are specialists.

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5. Q. Are there any labor camps for deportees, like concentration camps, which are permanent?
- A. I haven't heard of any such camps. There were rumors that the younger deportees were sent outside the country -- probably to the USSR or a place near USSR. The plan was to send them away from the western boundaries and minimize the possibility of escape.

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